



Media Release

Zug and Morges, November 18th, 2021

Fibre Networks at a Large Scale:

Romande Energie and Swiss4net form a New Alliance

Romande Energie, the leading energy provider in western Switzerland, and Swiss4net, financing and building FTTH networks nationwide, agreed together the deployment of fibre networks in several municipalities along the Lake Geneva. Morges will be the first city in Romande Energie's footprint to obtain a future proven, area-wide fibre network.

In two to three years' time, the rollout of the fibre to the home (FTTH), point-to-point (P2P) network with approx. 10,000 OTO-ready connections in Morges will be completed. The project will be implemented within a new long-term partnership between Romande Energie and Swiss4net. Swiss4net finances the construction of the FTTH network and both together build the fibre network in existing ducts. The network will be operated by a newly created company, Morges4net SA, owned by Swiss4net.

Swiss4net finances, builds and operates sustainable, environmentally friendly and high-performance FTTH P2P networks. To date, it has deployed FTTH networks in Chiasso, Vacallo, Morbio Inferiore, Balerna, Baden and Ennetbaden. It is currently rolling out networks in Ascona and Pully, parts of which are already in service. Once current pipeline projects have been completed, Swiss4net will serve more than 60,000 Swiss households with fibre broadband connections.

Morges is just the start

The new alliance between Romande Energie and Swiss4net also makes way for the deployment of other fibre networks in Romande Energie's footprint. Romande Energie services a large part of the Lake Geneva region, providing energy to around 300,000 customers in nearly 300 municipalities.

Romande Energie sees the deployment of a high-performance fibre network as essential for regional economic development and which is connected with its own digitalisation and innovation projects. "Having a high-performance fibre network available in towns and cities is becoming essential, for both local authorities and retail users," says Patrick

Bertschy, Head of Grids at Romande Energie. "After analysing the different options available for implementing FTTH in our footprint, we have decided to partner with Swiss4net, an FTTH industry leader in Switzerland. As we ourselves do not offer telecommunication services, enables this partnership to bundle our expertise in order to offer high-quality infrastructure for households and local businesses."

Morges4net SA operates the FTTH P2P network

The planning phase, supported by detailed analysis, is currently under way in Morges. Network deployment is to begin soon, beginning in 2022, and will take two to three years to complete. Swiss4net has for this purpose founded a local company, Morges4net SA, which will manage the deployment in conjunction with Romande Energie and subsequently will operate the network.

Swiss4net uses P2P technology for all of its FTTH networks, meaning that all households and businesses will have their own dedicated fibre. Additionally, two fibre connections per building will be available for future applications.

Free choice of telecom service provider

The new, non-discriminatory, FTTH network operated by Morges4net will be available to all interested telecom service providers. Soon the population of Morges will benefit from super-fast internet and state-of-the-art television and telephone services from a range of national and regional providers – thanks to fibre network. Each property owner will receive a non-binding free of charge offer for the fibre connection.

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About Swiss4net

Swiss4net is the ideal long-term partner for FTTH point-to-point fibre optics, working hand in hand with towns, cities and energy providers. Unlike other providers, Swiss4net takes care of everything, from financing and construction to operations. Neither municipalities nor energy provider partners incur any costs or take on any financial risk. Fibre networks enhance the attractiveness of towns and cities and widen choice of telecommunications provider for customers on the basis of non-discriminatory access. Swiss4net currently operates FTTH P2P networks in Baden and Chiasso. In Ascona and Pully, FTTH P2P networks are under construction and partly in service.

For more information about Swiss4net, visit <http://www.swiss4net.ch/en/>

Romande Energie at a glance

Romande Energie Group, the leading supplier of electricity in Western Switzerland, is a pillar in the Swiss energy industry, offering sustainability-driven solutions for distributing and generating power. It also provides energy services, including efficiency and electromobility solutions.

All its generation assets are driven by renewable energy, and it works closely with customers, investors and employees to provide an ever-better living environment, under its corporate social responsibility policy. In addition to security of supply, the Group is dedicated to offering innovative services that meet customers' expectations as it supports them in switching to more sustainable sources of energy in pursuit of a net-zero goal in Western Switzerland.

For more information on Romande Energie Group, visit www.romande-energie.ch